

Message Text

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A)

SUBJECT:SPECIAL SUMMARY NUMBER ONE: TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY

1. JORDAN

A. HUSSEIN'S HAWK DECISION HAS BROAD SUPPORT

EMBASSY AMMAN NOTES THAT THE JORDANIAN PRESS HAS EXPRESSED PRAISE FOR KING HUSSIEN'S REJECTION OF AMERICAN CONDITIONS FOR THE HAWK SALE AND CASTIGATES THE U.S. MOVE TO SUPPLY ISRAEL WITH LANCE AND PERSHING MISSILES. THE EMBASSY

REMARKS:

--WHILE SOME OF THE EXPRESSIONS OF SUPPORT ARE
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GOVERNMENT SPONSORED, THE KING'S POSITION HAS WIDE-SPREAD APPROVAL.

--THE EMOTIONAL PUBLIC DEBATE OBVIOUSLY THREATENS TO RESTRAIN THE GOJ'S FLEXIBILITY IN DEALING WITH THE ISSUE IN THE FUTURE.

B. JORDAN PLAYS CONCILIATOR--IN EARNEST

IN A SEPTEMBER 21 CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR PICKERING, PRIME MINISTER RIFAI SAID THAT KING HUSSEIN WOULD SOON SEE ASAD AND ATTEMPT TO CONVINCE HIM TO MEET WITH SADAT AND KING KHALID IN AMMAN. RIFAI ALSO STATED THAT:

--THE SECRETARY SHOULD VISIT DAMASCUS IN OCTOBER ONLY IF HE BRINGS SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS FOR A GOLAN WITHDRAWAL.

--THE ISRAELIS MUST SUBMIT POSITIONS ON THE WEST BANK AND THE PALESTINIANS, ALTHOUGH THIS CONDITION COULD BE DROPPED IF THE ISRAELIS WERE MORE FORTHCOMING ON GOLAN.

AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT: THE JORDANIANS SEEM TO BE THROWING THEMSELVES INTO THE INTER-ARAB PROCESS WITH A VENGEANCE, AND NOW SEEM MORE SERIOUSLY DEDICATED TO PATCHING UP SADAT-ASAD DIFFERENCES THAN EVER BEFORE.

2. SYRIA

A. ANALYSIS OF SYRIAN POSITION ON SINAI II

SYRIA'S BELLICOSE OPPOSITION TO THE INTERIM AGREEMENT, ACCORDING TO EMBASSY DAMASCUS, EMANATES FROM THE ACCELERATED PACE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL ADJUSTMENT WHICH THE SYRIANS MUST MAKE IN ACCEPTING ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE, AND FROM WHAT THEY SEE AS AN OPPORTUNISTIC SELLOUT BY EGYPT. ALTHOUGH THEY HAVEN'T GIVEN UP PURSUIT OF A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT, THE SYRIANS:

--ARE TAKING A HARDLINE AS THE BEST WAY TO PREPARE FOR WHATEVER FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS MAY DEVELOP, AND TO SHORE
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UP THEIR DOMESTIC AND ARAB POSITIONS;

--DEVELOPED DEEP INSECURITIES WHEN THEIR BRIEFLY ACHIEVED GOAL OF ARAB UNITY ESCAPED THEM AS A RESULT OF SADAT'S "DECEPTION."

--AND STILL PERCEIVE THE US AS AN IMPERIALIST POWER.

B. SYRIAN-IRAQI PROPAGANDA DISPUTE QUIETS

EMBASSY DAMASCUS REPORTS THAT SINCE THE CONCLUSION OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT THE SYRIAN PRESS HAS TONED DOWN ITS ATTACKS ON IRAQ. THE EMBASSY NOTES:

--THE SARG HAS ANNOUNCED THE RATIFICATION OF A PROTOCOL FOR JOINT SYRIAN-IRAQI RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

--THE ITALIAN EMBASSY HAS BEEN TOLD BY SYRIAN OFFI-

CIALS THAT THE SOVIETS ARE HELPING TO ARRANGE A RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN THE RIVAL BAATHI REGIMES.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THE QUIESCENCE ON THE PROPAGANDA FRONT CAN PROBABLY BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE SYRIAN MEDIA'S CONCENTRATION ON THE SINAI AGREEMENT. IT IS STILL PREMATURE TO SAY THAT ANY REAL ABATEMENT IN THE DISPUTE HAS TAKEN PLACE.

3. LEBANON: AN UNEASY TRUCE

EMBASSY BEIRUT REPORTS THAT THE CEASEFIRE WHICH WENT INTO EFFECT SEPTEMBER 20 WAS STILL BEING HONORED AS OF EARLY SEPTEMBER 21. THE TRUCE IS REPORTEDLY THE FIRST STAGE OF A TWO STAGE ARMISTICE. STAGE TWO WILL TAKE THE FORM OF "NATIONAL RECONCILIATION" TALKS INVOLVING POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF THE CABINET, THE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL DEMANDS OF THE MOSLEM-LEFTIST CAMP, AND PERHAPS LEBANESE-PALESTINIAN RELATIONS. THE EMBASSY ALSO REPORTS THAT:

--SYRIAN EMISSARIES KHADDAM AND SHEHABI GET MUCH OF THE CREDIT FOR THE BREAKTHROUGH.

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--ALLON'S STATEMENT SEPTEMBER 20 THAT THE GOI WILL NOT TOLERATE SYRIAN INTERVENTION HAS CAUSED CONSIDERABLE CONCERN AMONG JITTERY LEBANESE.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THERE IS CONSIDERABLE DOUBT THAT BASIC PROGRESS WILL BE MADE SOON ON SUCH INTRACTABLE ISSUES, BUT AT LEAST THE PARTIES ARE NOW TALKING INSTEAD OF FIGHTING.

4. SAUDIS WORK FOR STABILITY IN PAKISTAN

SAUDI ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER MAS'UD TOLD EMBASSY JIDDA THAT THE ATMOSPHERE DURING BHUTTO'S RECENT TRIP TO SAUDI ARABIA WAS "EXCELLENT." HE DECLARED:

--THE SAG WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE PAKISTAN WHATEVER ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE IT NEEDS TO MAINTAIN ITS STABILITY AND PROSPERITY.

--THE SAG WISHES TO PREVENT A RUSH OF SOVIET INFLUENCE TO THE ARABIAN SEA--WHICH MIGHT OCCUR IF PAKISTAN WERE TO SUCCUMB TO RADICAL PRESSURE.

5. SILVEIRA COMMENTS ON NUCLEAR TREATY WITH GERMANS

IN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE BRAZILIAN SENATE ON SEPTEMBER 18, FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA SAID BRAZIL'S NUCLEAR ACCORD WITH

THE WEST GERMANS IS A "NEW ELEMENT" IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE DEVELOPED AND LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, AND MARKS THE SUCCESS OF BRAZILIAN EFFORTS TO "REVISE THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER." NOTING HINDRANCES TO US/BRAZIL NUCLEAR COOPERATION, SILVEIRA STATED THAT:

--COOPERATION PLANS SUBMITTED BY GENERAL ELECTRIC AND WESTINGHOUSE WERE INADEQUATE SINCE THEY OMITTED ENRICHMENT AND REPROCESSING FACILITIES, AND THEREBY PERPETUATED BRAZIL'S DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN SUPPLIES.

--BRAZIL HAS BEEN WAITING FOR MORE THAN A YEAR FOR THE US TO SUBMIT AN AMENDMENT TO THE 1972 AGREEMENT.

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--"INCREASING AND EXAGGERATED DISQUIET" IN US "PUBLIC SECTORS" REGARDING THE "DANGERS, REAL OR IMAGINED, OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION" ADVERSELY AFFECTS COOPERATION WITH THE US.

6. IMPRESSIONS OF VIETNAMESE HOPES FOR THE FUTURE

USLO PEKING REPORTS THAT FOREIGN DIPLOMATS RETURNED FROM THE DRV 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS IN HANOI IMPRESSED WITH THE VIETNAMESE DESIRE TO STEER A COURSE INDEPENDENT OF THE CHINESE AND SOVIETS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME INCREASING ECONOMIC TIES WITH (AND AID FROM) THE DEVELOPED WORLD. THEY ALSO SOUGHT TO IMPRESS UPON THE THIRD WORLD THEIR PRETENSIONS TO NON-ALIGNED STATUS; AND TOOK A CONCILIATORY LINE TOWARD THE US.

THE DIPLOMATS RECEIVED MORE SIGNALS ON UNIFICATION OF THE NORTH AND SOUTH. THE FIVE-YEAR TRANSITION PERIOD SEEMS TO HAVE ACCELERATED SOMEWHAT, BUT VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS ARE QUICK TO LIST THE SOUTH'S MANY UNSOLVED SOCIAL PROBLEMS WHICH NECESSITATE SEPARATE GOVERNMENT.

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